

U.S. Serial No. 10/014,361
Reply to Office Action of: 10/13/2005
Family Number: P2000J098 US2

Page 8

REMARKS

The Examiner objects to the title as not being descriptive and offers a suggested new title.

Applicants have amended the title in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

The Examiner indicates that the Oath/Declaration is missing from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office files and requests Applicants to provide a copy of same.

Attached is a copy of the Oath/Declaration submitted on February 7, 2000 in response to a Notice to File Missing Parts of a Non-Provisional Application, said notice dated January 18, 2002. Also attached is a copy of the Acknowledgement post card date stamped by the USPTO (March 05, 2002) acknowledging receipt of the Declaration.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-23 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of USP 6,534,318 either alone or further in view of Roussis et al (USP 5,808,180). The Examiner indicates that a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) would overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground.

A Terminal Disclaimer signed in behalf of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company by Gary P. Katz, a registered attorney fully authorized to act on behalf of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company in such matters as signing a Terminal Disclaimer, is attached. A copy of the letter dated July 11, 2005 to the Commissioner for Patents executed by M. A. Nametz, Secretary of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company listing those attorneys (including Mr. Katz) authorized to execute terminal disclaimers is attached.

U.S. Serial No. 10/014,361
Reply to Office Action of: 10/13/2005
Family Number: P2000J098 US2

Page 9

The Examiner rejects claim 2 under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Woodle, USP 3,546,109.

Claim 2 has been cancelled.

Amendments have been made to claims 3-9, 11-22 correcting a number of informalities which were identified by the undersigned.

It is requested that the Examiner reconsider this application in light of the amendments made to the claims and the attached Terminal Disclaimer over USP 6,534,318, allow the claims, and pass the case to issue in due course.

Respectfully submitted,



JOSEPH J. ALLOCCA
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 27,766
Telephone Number: (908) 730-3629
Facsimile Number: (908) 730-3649

☒ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.34(a)

ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company
P. O. Box 900
Annandale, New Jersey 08801-0900

JJA:kak
2/14/2006

Attachments